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LB 273

is you're exempting a whole group of people from instruction. Lastly, Senator Sieck maintains that there's a half a million dollar impact of this bill. But I'll say that half a million dollars represents a half a million dollars worth of insurance to those elderly. It represents a half a million dollars worth of peace of mind. It represents a half a million dollars of better health care. But most of all, I think it represents a glaring defect in today's standard of health care which could only be cured by the passage of LB 273. I don't think that we should do, I think we should do as much for the elderly as we did for the funeral directors, and after all, they were only in charge of the care of the dead. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you, Mr. President. I'm sure we all have in front of us the potential impact and that's exactly what it is, it's a potential in someone's mind for Senator Sieck makes the assumption and those assumptions really are not valid assumptions. To start with, \$3.35 is the average in out state Nebraska for the nurse's aide, not the figure he tries to give. We have, by this body's own action, mandated only 15 hours in the classroom. We do not require those 15 hours to be under the direct supervision of the registered nurse. Yes, the registered nurse will certainly be interested in what's going on and she may direct someone else or he may direct someone in the training. We do not require that the nursing homes pay the orderlies and the nurses and the nurse aides during the 15 hours of training. This may be a requirement for the job. They may choose to pay but they do not require it to be so by this piece of legislation. What some of the assumptions seem to forget is that OJT is in effect, on-the-job training is part of what is required under Legislative Bill 273. Yes, we have many fine nursing homes. Yes, many of the nursing homes we have require training and yes, many of them require 50 hours or more of training. The nursing homes which require training have less turnover than the nursing homes who do not have this as a part of their job description. This is a tool as it currently is. Let's not take a step backwards. I urge your rejection of the amendment which Senator Sieck has before us.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President, I'd call the question. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Question's called. Do I see five hands? I do. Question is shall the debate cease. All those in favor, vote aye. Opposed, vote no. Question is on, we'll...the, I think we'll pursue with the attempt to get the votes to cease the debate first. Please record your vote on the issue of whether